

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 918 Session of 2012

INTRODUCED BY KAVULICH, PEIFER, MULLERY, BOBACK, PASHINSKI, BAKER, MIRABITO, MAJOR, MILLARD, SCAVELLO, BEAR, DALEY, DeLUCA, DiGIROLAMO, EVERETT, FRANKEL, GEORGE, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, JAMES, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, MANN, MARKOSEK, READSHAW, SONNEY, SWANGER AND YOUNGBLOOD, OCTOBER 15, 2012

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, OCTOBER 15, 2012

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring Mike Strong, Head Coach of the University of Scranton's  
2 women's basketball team, for becoming the NCAA Division III  
3 women's basketball all-time career victories leader by  
4 designating December 1 through 7, 2012, as "Mike Strong Week"  
5 in Pennsylvania.

6 WHEREAS, Mike Strong has served as Head Coach of the  
7 University of Scranton's women's basketball team since 1979; and

8 WHEREAS, During his time leading the program, Mr. Strong has  
9 experienced more victories than any other NCAA Division III  
10 women's basketball coach, an honor he and his team achieved with  
11 a 46-43 victory on Saturday, December 17, 2011, marking his  
12 758th win at the helm of the squad, which moved his total  
13 victories past St. John Fisher College's Head Coach Phil Kahler,  
14 who retired in 2008 with 757 career victories; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Strong has led the Lady Royals to at least 20  
16 wins in 18 of the last 19 seasons, a feat that he and the team  
17 have accomplished 25 times overall; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Strong guided the team to an NCAA Division III  
2 championship in 1985; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Strong helped the team reach the Final Four  
4 seven other times in 1987, 1993, 1997, 1999, 2000 and 2006; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Strong took a team to a semifinal appearance in  
6 the now defunct AIAW National Tournament in his first season in  
7 1979-80; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Strong and his teams amassed 770 career wins at  
9 the end of the 2011-12 season; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Strong has led Scranton to 24 NCAA tournament  
11 appearances, 16 of the 19 Lady Royals' Middle Atlantic/Freedom  
12 Conference titles and back-to-back Landmark Conference  
13 championships in 2008 and 2009; and

14 WHEREAS, The Lady Royals have never experienced a losing  
15 season in Mr. Strong's 32 years in coaching, have garnered four  
16 seasons with 30-or-more wins and have experienced at least 16  
17 victories in each season, with 18 of the Lady Royals' players  
18 having become All-Americans, and 2 having become NCAA Player of  
19 the Year selections; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Strong retired as an associate professor in the  
21 University of Scranton's Exercise Science and Sport Department;  
22 and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Strong previously worked as a high school  
24 mathematics teacher in suburban Philadelphia, as a men's soccer  
25 and basketball coach at Keystone College, as an assistant men's  
26 basketball coach, head men's tennis coach and head women's  
27 tennis coach at the University of Scranton; and

28 WHEREAS, As an assistant men's basketball coach under then  
29 Head Coach Bob Bessoir, Mr. Strong played a role in the Royals  
30 men's team winning the NCAA Division III National Championship;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, While as a men's tennis coach, his team earned an  
3 overall 91-48 record, and as a women's tennis coach, his team  
4 accrued a 53-13 record and a Middle Atlantic Conference  
5 championship in 1999; therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor University  
7 of Scranton Women's Basketball Head Coach Mike Strong for his  
8 outstanding leadership, dedication and service for molding,  
9 informing, guiding and developing young minds in the classroom,  
10 on the basketball and tennis courts and elsewhere at the  
11 University and throughout his community; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate  
13 December 1 through 7, 2012, as "Mike Strong Week" in  
14 Pennsylvania.